

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 05691 051350Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00
SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03
IGA-02 /071 W
-----051356Z 067257 /46/50

R 041458Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3568
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5691

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (INFO ADDRESSEE ADDED)

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAGR, EAID, EG, EEC
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN WHEAT NEEDS IN BQOUU AND POSSIBLE LOWER UMR

REF A, EC BRUSSELS 2000, B, CAIRO 3730, C, STATE 63355,
D, CAIRO 5043, E, STATE 665 4, F, EC BRUSSELS 2931
G, CAIRO 5158, H, CAIRO 5524, I, EC BRUSSELS 3048,
J, CAIRO 5418, K, EC BRUSSELS 3205,

1. IN VIEW OF CONFLICTING REPORTS IN REFS A, F, I AND K
AS TO LIKELY EC RECEPTION TO GOE REQUEST FOR LOWER UMR FOR
WHEAT/WHET FLOUR AND OBVIUS CONFUSION WITHIN GOE REPORTED
IN REFS G, H AND J, AS TO AGREEMENT WITH ECON UMR FOR JULY
77-JUNE 78, CHARGE AND AGATTACHE CALLED ON MIN TEWFIK AND
OTHERS APRIL 4.

2. WE POINTED OUT THAT USG HAD BEEN SUGGESTING INFORMALLY
THAT GOE MAKE FORMAL EHPEAL TO EC FOR LOWER UMR IN 1978,
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OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT SUCH REQUEST WOULD LIKELY RECEIVE SYM-
PATHETIC CONSIDERATION, SURPRISE THAT EC OFFICIALS PROPOSED
INCREASE TO 2.8 MILLION TONS DURING RECENT VISIT TO CAIRO,
AND INQUIRED WHETHER OR NOT GOE HAD AGREED TO COMPROMISE
FIGURE OF 2.5 MILLION.

3. MIN TEWFIK WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT WELL INFORMED ON SUBJECT AND

FIRST PART OF MEETING SPENT EXPLAINING MEANING OF UMR, DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TITLE I PROGRAM AND CIP PROGRAM OF AID, AND OTHER RELATIVELY BASIC MATTERS. WHEN DISCUSSION FINALLY GOT AROUND TO LEVEL OF UMR, MIN INDICATED HE DID NOT FEEL FIRM AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON 2.5 MILLION TONS AND STATED THEIR MISSION BRUSSELS WOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE FORMAL APPEAL FOR LOWER LEVEL. TEWFIK'S ASSISTANT, DR MIKAWI, SAID THEY WOULD ASK FOR UMR OF 2.0 MILLION TONS FOR BOTH EC FISCAL YEAR (JULY-JUNE) AND US FISCAL YEAR (OCT-SEPT).

4. WE REPEATED USG WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT EGYPTIAN REQUEST BUT EMPHASIZED THAT INITIATIVE MUST COME FROM GOE AND THAT USG COULD NOT ENTER PICTURE UNTIL CONSULTED BY EC. TEWFIK ASSURED US THAT USG WOULD NOT BE MENTIONED IN FORMAL REQUEST TO EC.

5. TEWFIK TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OCCASION TO EXPRESS DEEP THANKS OF GOE AND EGYPTIAN PEOPLE FOR CIP LOAN (AFTER HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT IT MEANS). HE ALSO AGAIN MENTIONED NEED FOR CREDIT UNDER EITHER TITLE I OR CIP TO FINANCE RAW COTTON IMPORTS, AND COMMENTED THAT GOE CONCERNED ABOUT MARKETS FOR ITS 1977 COTTON CROP SINCE QUANTITY OF COTTON REDUCED TO 30,000 MT UNDER TRADE PROTOCOL WITH USSR FOR 1977 AND EGYPTIAN ACREAGE PLANTED TO COTTON IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE. WE REPEATED POINT MADE MANY TIMES BEFORE THAT CREDIT NOT NEEDED TO IMPORT AMERICAN COTTON SINCE IT RELEASES HIGHER VALUE EGYPTIAN COTTON FOR EXPORT, AND PROMISED TO FURNISH CURRENT INFORMATION ON US QUOTAS FOR EXTRA LONG STAPLE COTTON. TEWFIK ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN SOME FORM OF BARTER ARRANGEMENT

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FOR EXCHANGING EGYPTIAN ELS COTTON FOR AMERICAN UPLAND COTTON, WHICH WE DID NOT ENCOURAGE.

MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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